

To the Honorable Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission:

I'm writing to express my support for maintaining all current FCC rules to be reviewed in Docket 02-277.

The public's interest would not be served by removing provisions which limit media concentration. It is recognized among many of us that the public debate has been subdued by homogenized broadcasts. Media conglomeration threatens an informed public debate on national and local issues.

Restrictions to sharing information, art and independent work will only increase if more outlets are controlled by fewer corporations. I believe strongly in competition within financial markets. The interests of a diversified broadcasting and media market will certainly not be served by allowing the big fish to eat the little ones.

Arguments have been made that the internet provides all the information necessary to gain many perspectives and maintain an informed opinion. My concern is that the preponderance of the public still obtains their information through television. Internet technology involves some learning curve and the public at large may not be aware of how to obtain a spectrum of free thought within this form of media. Furthermore, the internet is quickly taking a shift from an information resource to that of an entertainment fixture. For this reason, it is vital that we maintain these markets as open-voiced.

Great thinkers, the Founders of our nation, Congress and our High Court have recognized time and again the need of an environment conducive to free speech and thought.

I urge you strongly to proceed with my words in thought, and the public interest at heart.

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Loosen